

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to reflect that the subject application is a division of earlier filed parent application Serial No. 09/844,907.

Claims 11-12 and 24-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Kroll et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,579,915). The examiner notes col. 18, lines 60-65, of Kroll et al. as disclosing the use of radiation curable hot melt for casemaking and urges that casemaking is an art of bookbinding and book embossment. While acknowledging that Knoll et al. are silent on the claimed embossed product and casemaking machine, it is the examiner's position that since casemaking technology is primarily for making embossed product for mass distribution it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to recognize the value of having a machine for the mass production of embossed case products and, as such, the embossed product and the machine for making the same are considered obvious in view of Knoll et al. Applicants disagree.

Casemaking does not, as urged by the examiner, the art of bookbinding and book embossment and does not, as also urged by the examiner, relate to a process for making embossed product for mass distribution.

As noted in applicants' disclosure, casemaking refers to the production of the case or cover, i.e., the outer shell, of a hard bound book. The invention relates to the field of casemaking. More specifically, the invention relates to the use of a curable hot melt adhesive and to products, in particular embossed products, constructed with the use of such an adhesive. Applicants have discovered that the use of a curable hot melt adhesive is suitable for use in casemaking and, moreover, that the use of a curable hot melt in casemaking provides cases that are particularly useful when embossing is desired. The invention provides

an adhesive for use in casemaking which minimizes warpage of cases, allows equipment to run in a fast and efficient manner, and allows the case to be embossed without damage to the embossed surface.

Embossing is not, as argued by the examiner part of the casemaking process. Knoll et al. is completely silent on the embossing process and results obtained by embossing a case manufactured with a curable hot melt adhesive. Moreover, Knoll et al. fail to address apparatus requirements when preparing a case using a radiation curable adhesive. The claimed invention would not be obvious to one skilled in the art from the disclosure of Knoll et al.

Withdrawal of the Section 103 rejection of claims 11-12 and 24 27 as being obvious over Kroll et al. is requested.

Claims 11, 13 and 24 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Yang et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,479,126).

The examiner refers to the Abstract of Yang and col. 4, lines 31-37, and the Figures as disclosing use of a moisture curable reactive hot melt in bookbinding applications such as casing in and casemaking. The examiner maintains the position that casemaking is an art of bookbinding and book embossment. While also acknowledging that Yang et al. are silent on the claimed embossed product and casemaking machine, the examiner's again takes the position that since casemaking technology is primarily for making embossed product for mass distribution it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to recognize the value of having a machine for the mass production of embossed case products and, as such, the embossed product and the machine for making the same are considered obvious in view of Yang et al. Applicants disagree.

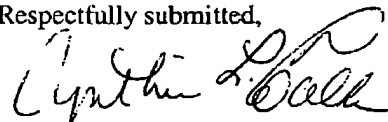
Casemaking does not, as urged by the examiner, the art of bookbinding and book embossment and does not, as also urged by the examiner, relate to a process for making embossed product for mass distribution.

Casemaking refers to the production of the case or cover, i.e., the outer shell, of a hard bound book. Applicants have discovered that the use of a radiation curable and moisture curable hot melt adhesives are suitable for use in casemaking and, moreover, that the use of a curable hot melt in casemaking provides cases that are particularly useful when embossing is desired. The invention provides an adhesive for use in casemaking which minimizes warpage of cases, allows equipment to run in a fast and efficient manner, and allows the case to be embossed without damage to the embossed surface.

Embossing is not, as argued by the examiner part of the casemaking process. Yang et al. is completely silent on the embossing process and results obtained by embossing a case manufactured with a curable hot melt adhesive. Moreover, Yang et al. fail to address apparatus requirements when preparing a case using a moisture curable adhesive. The claimed invention would not be obvious to one skilled in the art from the disclosure of Yang et al.

Early and favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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